

I am strongly opposed as this effort will further harm consumer choice among ISPs, as well as damage the economy by destroying the remaining independent internet service providers. I value my ability to choose between a number of independent ISPs and am strongly opposed to any efforts which limit my choices, especially when those choices would largely consist of the cable companies and ILECs -- two types of company that have zero regard for the best interests of consumers. Mr. Powell, I know that you don't believe this, but handing an oligopoly over broadband Internet services to the cable companies and ILECs is going to harm our economy from every angle. I hope that some day, you will come to see that your efforts at deregulation are misguided, and will focus on creating entrepreneurial competition instead of destroying it. Sometimes, added regulation is needed in the short term to ensure a competitive landscape in the long term, especially when you have incumbent carriers who have decades of government-subsidized infrastructure behind them. Open the networks, allow meaningful competition to develop, and then deregulate everything GRADUALLY, so that CLECs and ISPs have a chance to survive and thrive. Your current course of action, and the proposal under this docket, will have exactly the opposite effect.